

evolved with technology and the changing needs of its patrons, providing computers and free Wi-Fi access, career services, research assistance, literacy and citizenship classes, and homebound library services among many other vital services. The Long Branch Free Public Library also serves as a place for the community to come together, offering programs for children and young adults, book clubs, cultural events, historical programs and activities for all ages.

The Long Branch Free Public Library is a welcome place for the community to share and has been recognized for its efforts to offer an outstanding space for learning and civic involvement. It was selected by Asbury Park Press readers as one of the Best Libraries in Monmouth County in 2015 and received the 2014 New Jersey State Library Innovation Award. Its Director, Tonya Garcia, was also named the New Jersey Library Association 2016 Librarian of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Long Branch Free Public Library. The library continues to uphold its mission to assist the community and its efforts are to be recognized.

IN HONOR OF RAMON "CHUNKY"  
SANCHEZ

**HON. JUAN VARGAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 16, 2016*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ramon 'Chunky' Sanchez, an exceptional musician and activist for the community of San Diego. Chunky Sanchez passed away on Friday, October 28, 2016, a few days before his sixty-fifth birthday.

Chunky Sanchez was born in 1951 in Blythe, California to Mexican immigrant parents. He was a talented musician, who was taught traditional Mexican music by his mother and uncles.

Chunky Sanchez quickly learned how to sing, play ten different instruments, and compose his own music. In 1969 he attended San Diego State University on a scholarship and began performing with La Rondalla Amerindia de Aztlan, a noted musical group composed of students and professors.

Later, Chunky Sanchez became a vocalist for the folklore group Los Alcranes (The Scorpions) which he co-founded along with his brother Ricardo. They recorded their first album in 1977. Through his music, he would tell the story of the Chicano movement and of the Mexican American bi-cultural experience.

Chunky Sanchez was so well received that labor leader Cesar Chavez would often invite him to play at union rallies. Chunky Sanchez was also an incredibly active member of the San Diego community. In his song 'Rising Souls', he sang that we needed to 'educate, not incarcerate, so that humanity will shine.'

During his lifetime he embodied these lyrics as he worked with local youth as a coach, an educator, a youth center director, and a gang intervention counselor. His passion and care for the community garnered numerous awards and honors from organizations across California and throughout the City of San Diego.

Chunky Sanchez is best known for his song "Chicano Park Samba", which narrated the

struggle for and successful creation of Chicano Park in San Diego. A City Historic Landmark, Chicano Park honors the history of the Chicano Mexican people through monumental murals, sculptures, earthworks, and an architectural piece.

Earlier in the 114th Congress, I introduced H.R. 3711, the Chicano Park Preservation Act to preserve Chicano Park as part of the National Historic system. Coincidentally, this bill is being marked up by the House Natural Resources Committee later today. I would like to thank Chairman BISHOP and Ranking Member GRIJALVA for supporting this legislation. It's a fitting way to honor Ramon 'Chunky' Sanchez's memory.

Ramon Chunky Sanchez will be missed by his family—his wife Isabel, five children, many grandchildren and the San Diego community.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the lyrics of the Chicano Park Samba.

CHICANO PARK SAMBA LYRICS

LOS ALACRANES MOJADOS: CHUNKY SANCHEZ,  
RICARDO SANCHEZ, MARIO AGUILAR, MARCO  
ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ

In the year the year 1970, in the city of San Diego, under the Coronado Bridge, lied a little piece of land, a piece of land that the community of Logan Heights wanted to make into a park . . .

A park where all the chavalitos could play in so they wouldn't have to play in the street and get run over by a car . . . a park where all the viejitos could come and just sit down and watch the sun go down in the tarde . . .

a park where all the familias could come and just get together on a Sunday afternoon and celebrate the spirit of life itself.

But the city of San Diego said, "Chale. We're going to make a highway patrol substation here, man."

So on April 22nd, 1970, la raza of Logan Heights and other Chicano communities of San Diego got together, and they organized . . .

and they walked on the land, and they took it over with their picks and their shovels and they began to build their park.

And today, that little piece of land under the Coronado Bridge is known to everybody . . . as Chicano Park . . . Orale!

It began in 1970, under the Coronado Bridge En mi barrio, in San Diego

Where my people began to fight

For Chicano Park, for Chicano Park

Under the bridge, under the bridge, under the bridge . . .

We shall continue to live my brother,  
We shall continue to fight my friend

For Chicano Park, under the bridge . . .

Raza!, Que vivan, que vivan, Los barrios unidos!

RECOGNIZING 1ST CONGRES-  
SIONAL DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
SCHOOLS FOR ACHIEVING THE  
NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 16, 2016*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Calvary Day School and Jacob G. Smith Elementary School in Savannah as well as Midway Elementary School in Blackshear for being awarded the National Blue Ribbon in 2016 by the U.S. Secretary of Education, John B. King, Jr.

These outstanding schools won the blue ribbon for their overall academic excellence, progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups, and demonstrating that all students can strive to achieve peak levels in education.

The award is an extraordinary achievement for these schools. The selection process for National Blue Ribbon Award is highly competitive and schools from all over the country compete for this prestigious honor.

I am proud to rise today to congratulate the principals, staff, students, and families of the schools for their hard work in achieving this national recognition. I wish them the best of luck this school year and encourage them to continue their impressive work in the First Congressional District of Georgia.

CONGRATULATING TAYLORVILLE  
AS THE CHILLI CAPITAL OF IL-  
LINOIS

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 16, 2016*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate my hometown of Taylorville on its designation as the Chilli Capital of Illinois.

Taylorville hosts five International Chilli Society cook-offs every year, in addition to numerous local and regional events. Each summer, Taylorville is home to the Christian County Ag Fair's chilli cookoff and in October, Taylorville hosts its own "Chillinois Regional" Chillifest.

Annually, these competitions bring twelve chilli-cooking world champions to Taylorville and as many as ten thousand chilli connoisseurs. Earlier this year, the Illinois General Assembly passed H.R. 1357, which officially named Taylorville the Chilli Capital of Illinois.

I am very proud of my hometown and I would like to commend Mayor Brotherton and the City of Taylorville on this distinction. I look forward to celebrating many more years as the state's chilli capital.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GERTIE  
FLETCHER

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 16, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor the life of Mrs. Gertrude "Gertie" Mae Smith Fletcher of Ashburn, Virginia. Throughout her life, Mrs. Fletcher was a respected leader in the community as she and her husband Charlie were founding members of Ashburn Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. Her dedicated service has kept the people of the Ashburn community safe for over 60 years.

One morning in 1947, Gertrude was busy preparing for an event at the fire station when an alarm was dispatched. Her brother-in-law, Carly Fletcher, was the only fireman that responded to answer the call that morning. Realizing that he may need help in this situation, Carly called for Mrs. Fletcher to get in the